

REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 250, AMENDING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO PROVIDE FOR GIFT REFORM

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-337) on the resolution (H. Res. 250) to amend the rules of the House of Representatives to provide for gift reform, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2020, TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-338) on the resolution (H. Res. 267) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2020) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the U.S. Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. HILLIARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HILLIARD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

SECRETARY O'LEARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Ms. MCKINNEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, it appears that some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are salivating at the chance to use a rumor against Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary.

Some of my Republican colleagues who are upset with Secretary O'Leary for not greasing their districts with sufficient Federal lard, are trying to make a mountain out of a mole hill as their revenge. Apparently the Wall Street Journal—not known to be a Democrat-friendly newspaper—wrote that the Secretary of Energy had hired an advanced news-clipping service to gauge what newspapers across the Nation and the world were saying about the Department which she is working to reform.

However, some of my bitter Republican colleagues who did not get the bacon they wanted from the DOE, are charging that Secretary O'Leary was spying on reporters, newspapers, and was concerned about the Department's image. What a farce.

This coming from Members of Congress who spend tens of thousands of dollars on their press secretaries who basically do the same thing: clip newspapers and respond

when they get bad press. This coming from Members of Congress who use the House recording studio, send out newsletters, get official photos et cetera, et cetera. My Republican colleagues are charging Secretary O'Leary with spending \$43,000 on what every major corporation in America does: monitor how the press is receiving them.

Yet when one compares how much Members of Congress spend on their press secretaries, news letters and so on, we will find that they spend much more than \$43,000 on image. Can you imagine the nerve of my colleagues who have the audacity to stand up here and accuse the Secretary of Energy of being concerned about the image of her Department, when they are doing the exact same thing?

One of my Republican colleagues from South Carolina even had the nerve to stand on the floor last night to lambaste Secretary O'Leary, and say, quote, "If I as a Member of Congress took taxpayer money entrusted to my care to go out and work on somebody to make me look better, I should lose my job."

Well, maybe my colleague from South Carolina should resign. What is your press secretary for if he or she is not there to spruce up your image? What is more unbelievable, is that that same colleague, just seconds before he delivered his rumor-based attack on Secretary O'Leary, said an I quote, "This is a funny town where rumors can start without any basis." He made this statement in defense of one of our Republican colleagues who has had charges leveled against him. Yet, literally in the same speech, he then went on to accuse Ms. O'Leary of abusing the public trust based solely on a rumor. So it appears that when rumors are started about Republicans, Washington all of the sudden becomes, "A funny town where rumors can start without any basis." However, if Republicans are the ones starting those rumors then it is OK.

Mr. Speaker, this kind of duplicity just amazes me. In fact, the Washington Post reported today that the Republican National Committee uses the exact same news-clipping service which the Republicans are claiming is a spy agency.

In fact, many corporations use such clipplings services. And since Hazel O'Leary has been trying to run DOE more like a business, it only makes sense that she have at her disposal the same tools that the corporations have at their disposal.

According to Mary McGrory in a Washington Post article on May 16, 1995, she said about Hazel O'Leary, and I quote, "No Cabinet officer has run a department more efficiently." In fact, for the DOE which has tens of thousands of employees, to spend \$45,000 on so-called image is actually pretty good when one considers what Members of Congress spend on image.

In closing I would advise my colleagues on the other side of the isle to be very careful before they start spreading rumors about a Cabinet member who didn't give them the pork projects they wanted in order to boost their images.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S CREDIBILITY CANYON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, tonight as the shadows descend from coast to coast, it is worth noting that life goes on in these United States, despite one cable network offering a countdown akin to a spacecraft countdown for the alleged shutdown of Government. Life continues.

Tonight again we are reminded that we have fateful choices to make, that we have significant differences of opinion; that, indeed, in many cases, we should rejoice in those differences, and we are certainly entitled to different interpretations.

I thought, Mr. Speaker, that tonight it would be important to offer the rest of the story. As one of our commentators so eloquently puts it on radio on a daily basis, for example, I have the greatest respect and affection for my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BISHOP], from the other side of the aisle, who was just in here talking about a conservative Democrat balanced budget plan. I must say, indeed, that I welcome that initiative on the part of the conservatives on the other side of the aisle. There remain philosophical differences, but unfortunately, my friends who would call themselves conservative on the other side of the aisle are in fact a minority within a minority.

The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BISHOP], chose to characterize the outcome of the vote on his self-described conservative Democrat balanced budget plan, saying it was rejected by the majority, full disclosure demands and accurate counting of the vote.

The sad fact is, and I can understand my friend's frustration, the sad fact is that a majority of his own party rejected that plan, including the minority leader. There reaches a time, Mr. Speaker, where we cannot be content with those who would merely talk the talk. The people of the United States, in my opinion, have spoken clearly and compellingly that they want to see a change in the culture of endless taxation and spending, and yet leaders step forward, claiming one thing and oftentimes doing another.

I find it especially ironic that this Nation's Chief Executive, who made well known in his youth his opposition to some of the actions taken by the President of his party in the late 1960's, in fact, it was said of that President in the late 1960's that he suffered from a credibility gap, how unfortunate it is that our President tonight suffers from an affliction that can only be described as a credibility canyon, so wide is the gulf between what Bill Clinton, the candidate, said, Mr. Speaker, and what Bill Clinton, the President, is willing to deliver.

In 1992, then candidate Clinton, on national television, said that he would commit to balance this Nation's budget within 5 years. As President, Bill Clinton, earlier in this session of the 104th Congress, worked overtime on the